Parity between fixing the price of coal and gas

2809. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Gujarat have demanded that there should be parity between fixing the price of coal and gas;

(b) whether the State Government has also requested the Centre that gas price should be fixed at calorific value of thermal equivalent of coal pit-head;

(c) if answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what is Government's decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Gujarat have made these requests in various Memoranda submitted by them to the Government of India.

(d) The prices of natural gas have been fixed by Government with effect from 1.1.1992 till 1995 taking into account the arguments made by the Gujarat Government as well as other factors including the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee on gas pricing.

Target of new LPG connections in Gujarat

2810. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has requested the Centre to fix the target of at least 2,50,000 new LPG connections for the State;

(b) whether Government of Gujarat has also requested to give LPG agency to 'Dang Zilla Madhyastha Sahakari Mandal Limited (At Ahwa) in tribal Dangs District;

(c) whether Government of Gujarat has also requested the Government of India to reconstitute early the Oil Selection Board; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Reques's are received from State Government and other sources for higher enrolment New LPG connections are released taking into consideration the waiting list, slack available with the distributors, and product availability etc.

(b) Representations have been received from some sources for the sanction of an LPG distributorship at Ahwa, Dangs.

(c) and (d) The Oil Selection Board for Gujarat has been reconstituted with effect from 1.1.1993.

Import of LPG and crude oil

2811. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity and value of LPG and crude oil likely to be imported during the current year; and

(b) what measures Government propose to take to reduce the imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The import of LPG and crude oil and their value